1	2	3	4	5
16.	Orissa	64,849	81,603	43,022
17.	*Punjab	14,279	12,447	2,188
18.	Rajasthan	79,685	70,873	56,772
19.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil
20.	Tamil Nadu	8,330	11,346	8,251
21.	Tripura		Information not furnished by the Board	
22.	*Uttar Pradesh	3,18,285	3,10,687	3,08,495
23.	West Bengal	96	53	316
24.	Chandigarh Administration	Nil	Nil	Nil
25.	Delhi	598	949	2,898
26.	@Pondicherry		863 (consolidated figure)	

For the Financial Years *viz.* 1993-94, 1994-95 & 1995-96.
For the Financial Years *viz.* 1992-93, 1993-94 & 1994-95.

Stock Market

2267. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he had a meeting with stock brokers and merchant bankers for revival of the stock-market and speeding up of the economy;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions held and recommendations/suggestions received therein; and

(c) the action taken thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). Such meetings with participants in the securities markets are held from time to time for discussing general issues relating to the market. Taking measures for reforms in the functioning of the stock market is a continuous process and discussions in the meetings referred to above help in this process.

Alleged Shielding of Scam-Tainted Bank Officials

2268. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Finance Ministry shields Scam-tainted Bank Official" appearing in the Pioneer dated 7th September, 1996; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the remedial action Government propose to take in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Government have seen the news item referred to in the Question. It is not correct to say that Government is shielding any official as stated in the news item.

A request was received from CBI in July, 1992 seeking concurrence of Government for registering a Regular Case against Shri M. Gopalkrishan, the then Chairman & Managing Director (CMD), Indian Bank, in the matter of grant of credit facilities to a certain company and its associate companies in Singapore. RBI who was consulted in the matter advised that their scrutiny did not establish any criminality on the part of the CMD. RBI, therefore, suggested that it was not a fit case for CBI to proceed in this matter. The matter was considered by the Government and the views of RBI were accepted. CBI was informed accordingly in November, 1993.

CBI have reported that they have since registered a case in the matter.

[Translation]

Bank Branches in Rajasthan

2269. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued/ proposed to issue licences for the setting up of private sector or State Government sponsored banks in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some other States have also sent proposals for the setting up of banks;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the present number of branches of nationalised, private sector or regional rural banks operating in rural and urban areas in Rajasthan separately;

(f) whether the Government propose to set up some more branches of the said banks in the rural areas; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Reserve Bank of India has not issued any licence for the setting up of private sector or State Government Sponsored Bank in Rajasthan.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Reserve Bank of India has not received any proposal from any State Government for setting up a private sector bank.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Details of Rural/Urban branches in Rajasthan as on 30.6.1996

	of	Rural	Urban/ Metropolitan
1.	Nationalised Banks	547	328/93
2.	Other Scheduled Commercial banks other than RBI & their associates and foreign banks)	107	65/28
3.	RRBs	917	19

(f) and (g). Authorisations issued to Commercial Banks for opening rural branches in the state of Rajasthan and which are pending/unutilised by the banks as on date

S. No.	Centre	District	Name of the Bank
1.	Bhiwlai Industrial Area	Alwar	Oriental Bank of Commerce
2.	Tibi	Sriganganagar	Oriental Bank of Commerce
3.	Mirajwali Gaon	Sriganganagar	Oriental Bank of Commerce
4.	Itawa	Kota	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur
5.	Gota	Nagaur	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur
6.	Neemrana	Alwar	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur
7.	Tapookda	Alwar	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur.

[English]

Fradulent Deals of Banks

2270. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item published in the *Times of India*, New Delhi dated October 29, 1996 under the caption "Rs. 129 crore siphoned off 'legally' through banks";

(b) if so, the facts and details of various fradulent deals of banks and others referred to in the above report; and

(c) the action the Government have taken against the persons involved in the racket?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Ahmedabad office of the Enforcement Directorate has taken up investigations in a case involving suspected siphoning off of foreign exchange worth Rs. 129 crores to Hongkong through the Bank of Baroda, Surat against forged documents.

Complaint against Chairman of Bharat Overseas Bank Ltd.

2271. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR :
SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum containing serious allegations against the Chairman, Bharat Overseas Bank Ltd. Madras: and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The complaints received by the Government/ RBI certain irregularities are alleged to have been committed by the Chairman of the Bharat Overseas Bank Ltd. The Reserve Bank of India have looked into the matter and feel that there was not much substance in the complaints made.

Rise in Bank Frauds

2272. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "when the Centre does not hold..." appearing in the *Indian Express* dated 19th October, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein; and

(c) the reasons as to why Department of Supervision of Reserve Bank of India could not curb the rising menace of frauds?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The article tries to depict that although irregularities are taking place in banks and are being brought out in Inspection Reports, the RBI is not taking